

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at Col. 4, line 32 with the following amended paragraph:

The authentication, authorization and accounting (AAA) service performs user authentication, user authorization and user accounting functions. It may be a Cisco ACSTTM product such as Cisco SecureTM, available from Cisco Systems, Inc. of San Jose, Calif., or an equivalent product. In accordance with a presently preferred embodiment of the present invention, the Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service (RADIUS) protocol is used as the communication protocol between the gateway and the AAA and GRS proxy services. RADIUS is an Internet standard track protocol for carrying authentication, authorization, accounting and configuration information between devices that desire to authenticate their links and a shared AAA or GRS service. Those of ordinary skill in the art will now realize that systems, methods and apparatuses may employ other Internet protocols such as TACACS+ [[can be used]] as acceptable authentication communications links between the various communications devices that encompass the data communications network and still be within the inventive concepts disclosed herein. The global roaming service (GRS) is also [[a]] an AAA service which is capable of proxying transactions to remote AAA [[service]] services. It also preferably uses the RADIUS protocol or an equivalent.